

God's Hedges

WWII Sherman Tank (Rhino tank)



I. Short History of “Hedge”

“To hedge or fence up / about”

- To protect, guard, grow a thorn hedge.
- God’s hedge *defended* Job from evil, *blessed* him with abundance.
- Job 1:10
 - What if Job had been poor, desolate?
 - Job’s tenacity: God is worth serving even without a hedge
 - Job 42:12, God can restore a hedge...

Hedges...

- Isa.5:1-5, conditional: bear good fruit.
- Mt.21:33, vineyard...set hedge around it...

Synonyms

- Wall, 1 Sm.25:16
- Shield, Ps.5:12
- Fortress, Ps.18:2
- Faith, 1 Pt.1:5

I. Short History of “Hedge”

II. God’s “Hedge”:
His Word

Dt.6:4-12

- Our protection does not come from a trivial acquaintance with the Word.
- Josh.1:8
- Mt.4:4
- Some call this the 'post-Christian era'

Paul Emil Botta sent Berlin ancient Assyrian bricks with '*Sargon*' baked in (Is.20:1). Skeptics charged Botta with forgery. Mountain of evidence later proved him (and Isaiah) right.

God's word is . . .

- Fire, Jer.23:29...burns up chaff of sin (v.28).
- Hammer, Jer.23:29. (Jg.4:21)...saves from hardness of sin (v.21).
- Barrier, Ho.2:6; Lam.3:7-8.
- Cleanser, Jn.15:3-8. Ep.5:26
- Diagnostic instrument, Hb.4:12.

Word of God can . . .

- Build up, Ac.20:32.
- Save souls, Ro.1:16.
 - Wisdom of men? 1 Co.1:18-24
 - Weapons of men? 2 Co.10:4
- Hedge against wolves, Tit.1:9

James 1:21

Receive the...

Implanted word (rooted in us; Jer.31:33)

1. Repentance, 21a: lay aside...
2. Reception, 21b: receive with meekness...
3. Response, 22: be doers of the word...
4. Respect, 23-24: insincerity hears but...
5. Resolve, 25: looks into...doer of the work